

## **Prof. Israel Finkelstein – CV**

March 2026

Israel Finkelstein is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations at Tel Aviv University. In 2021-2026 he established and then headed the School of Archaeology and Maritime Cultures at the University of Haifa. Finkelstein deals with the archaeology of the Levant in the Bronze and Iron Ages, the incorporation of the exact and life sciences into archaeological research, and the history and historiography of Ancient Israel.

Finkelstein is a foreign member of the French Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres and an International Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Finkelstein is the laureate of the Dan David Prize in the Past Dimension, Archaeology (2005), the winner of the Prix Delalande Guérineau of the Institut de France, l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres (2014), and recipient of the MacAllister Field Archaeology Award of the American Schools of Oriental Research (2017). He is the bearer of the French decoration Chevalier de l'ordre des arts et des lettres and the recipient of doctorat honoris causa from the University of Lausanne. Finkelstein served as a member of the Selection Committee of the Shanghai Archaeology Forum under the auspices of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Finkelstein taught in the University of Chicago, in the Sorbonne in Paris and in other institutions world-wide and carried out research at Harvard and Hebrew Universities. Finkelstein conducted archaeological surveys and excavations in the Negev, the Sinai and the highlands, and since 1994 has been the co-Director of the Megiddo Expedition. In the years 2009-2014 he co-directed a large-scale research project titled *Reconstructing Ancient Israel, the Exact and Life Sciences Perspectives*, that was funded by the European Research Council. In the years 2016-2018 he co-directed a project on the historical and archaeological realities behind the Pentateuch, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. Finkelstein's studies were described in news profiles in the journals *Science*, *Nature* and *New Scientist*. He published 17 books and about 470 scholarly articles and edited 15 books/monographs. Finkelstein was invited to give keynote lectures in leading conferences in Europe and the USA and in public events of institutions such as the British Museum, the Louvre, University of Heidelberg, Weizmann Institute and the Institute of Advanced Studies of Princeton University. He was the editor of *Tel Aviv*, the journal of the Institute of Archaeology at Tel Aviv University (2008-2021).